

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

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DRAFTED BY:AFR/CWR/SDE:HRARNHAM

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R 220021Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS STATE 186022

FOLLOWING RPT STATE 186022 18 SEP SENT ACTION NOUAKCHOTT INFO
DAKAR BAMAKO RPT TO YOU QUOTE

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

1. THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO SET DOWN HWHERE WE ARE ON
USG ASSISTANCE TO MAURITANIA FOR AIRLIFT. FOLLOWING IS
CLOSE TEXT OF LETTER SENT TO MAURITANIAN AMBASSADOR TO
U.S. BY DONALD S. BROWN, DAA/AFR.

2. AS AN OUTCOME OF OUR RECENT MEETING, I AM MOST AWARE OF
YOUR CONCERN REGARDING CURRENT CRITICAL SITUATION IN THE
EASTERN REGION OF MAURITANIA, PARTICULARLY NEMA, AND I
BELIEVE IT IS IMPERATIVE SHARE OUR KNOWLEDGE OF EMERGENCY
AIRLIFT RELIEF EFFORTS WITH YOU AND ASSURE YOU OF OUR
WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE IF
ULTIMATELY DEEMED NECESSARY.

3. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING SPAIN, FRG, AND LIBYA PRESENTLY
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PROVIDING AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE TO MAURITANIA. SPAIN PROVIDING

TWO DC-3S THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17, AT MINIMUM. FRG PROVIDING TWO C-160S THROUGH SEPTEMBER 3, AND ONE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 20, AT MINIMUM, AND LIBYA PROVIDING ONE C-130 FOR AN AS YET UNKNOWN DURATION. ADDITIONALLY, FRANCE PROMISED TWO ATLAS 2501S WHOSE ETA AND DURATION OF STAY NOT KNOWN.

4. ACCORDING TO MY INFORMATION, PRESENT AND SCHEDULED FUTURE AIRLIFT EFFORTS IN MAURITANIA ARE SUFFICIENT TO INSURE NO PROBLEM SUPPLYING GRAIN TO EASTERN REGION. AT

THIS TIME, THEREFORE, DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS NEED FOR AMERICAN AIRCRAFT.

5. AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE, HOWEVER, SITUATION COULD CHANGE INSTANTLY. WE ARE IN DAILY CONTACT WITH OUR EMBASSY IN NOUAKCHOTT REGARDING AIRLIFTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY. SHOULD AIRLIFTS REQUIRE ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT, I CAN ASSURE YOU WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER PROVISION OF PLANES TO MEET NEED.

6. ADDITIONALLY, WE ARE IN MIDST OF ARRANGING DIVERSION ONE OF OUR C-130S FROM MALI TO DAKAR TO PICK UP EMERGENCY SHIPMENT 19,000 POUNDS U.S. DONATED MEDICINES DESTINED MAURITANIA. THE PLANE WILL THEN FLY TO NOUAKCHOTT WITH MEDICINES AND RETURN MALI. RUSH
UNQUOTE RUSH

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